

## Ramos Reports for Duty

By MORAG MACLACHLAN

Eddy Ramos jots down a few details on a pad of paper. He asks the caller about the location and the injury. He's not responding to the scene of an accident. Instead, Ramos is off to assist a seagull suffering from a hook in its beak.

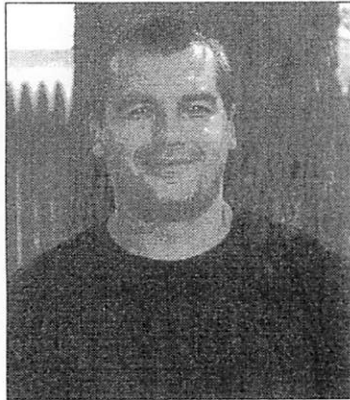
At the end of August, Ramos took over as the town's animal control officer. The Cambridge native has been working in the animal welfare field for nearly seven years.

He began his career at the Animal Rescue League in Boston, where he received training as an animal rescue specialist. He's been a certified animal control officer since 2001. Ramos holds certifications in many areas, including tree climbing rescue, swift water sled rescue and large animal rescue.

After three and a half years in Boston, Ramos transferred to Pembroke to open that town's animal rescue facility.

While working in Pembroke, Ramos heard about the job in Duxbury. He applied and was offered the position.

In his first two weeks on the job, Ramos has already responded to 50 calls. He hopes to answer 40 per week. He has assisted with an injured rabbit, dead birds, and stray cats and dogs. With Eastern Equine Encephalitis



**Eddy Ramos is the town's new animal control officer.**

detected in town, Ramos said residents have been contacting him with questions about the virus.

In addition to answering residents' calls and reports of injured animals, Ramos is developing several new practices.

"I hope to implement many new programs," he said. "I want this facility to be the best in the state within two years."

One of the new programs

Ramos will create is a volunteer initiative. This will allow members of the community to help Ramos and the animals housed at the Duxbury facility by walking dogs, socializing cats or cleaning the building.

"I'm very passionate about my work," he said. "I will put forth every effort to maintain the highest standards of quality animal care for the residents of Duxbury."

Ramos also plans to offer adoptions and partner with local departments.

"I want to stress the rescue part of the job," Ramos said. "You can call me a dog officer if you want, but the new title is animal control and rescue."

For example, Ramos is trained in ice rescue. He said he would be happy to accompany the fire department on any animal rescue involving ice. He hopes to train with the

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**—Eddy Ramos**

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department so that he can be of assistance during any circumstance.

"I've already had a lot of outreach from local vets and other town departments," Ramos said.

To complement Ramos' new vision is a new building. Construction is expected to be completed by Nov. 18. The facility will still be located on the property shared with the DPW.